

# CALIFORNIA'S FORESTS AND RANGELANDS

2017 ASSESSMENT



California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection  
Fire and Resource Assessment Program

## Assessment Chapter Topics

1. Sustainable Forests
2. Sustainable Rangelands
3. Urban Forestry
4. Wildfire Threat
5. Forest Pests and Disease
6. Population Growth and Development
7. Climate Change
8. Rural Economies
9. Water
10. Wildlife
11. Reducing Community Wildfire Risk
12. Renewable Energy

# Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP) Background

- Legislative mandate in the 70's (PRC 4789 - 4789.7) created FRAP to assess forestland and rangeland on a 5 year cycle.
- Forest Resource Policy Statement (Board of Forestry and Fire Protection)
- Federal requirement under the 2008 Farm Bill
- First Assessment in 1979; last edition in 2010
  - 2010 Assessment also called the "California Forest Action Plan" by the USFS
- Covers all of California but water and irrigated agriculture
  - 80.5 million acres Forest and Rangeland
  - 4.8 million acres in Urban (Urban Forestry)
  - 85.3 million acres total in Assessment (~84% of the State)

# Assessment 2017 Public Meeting Input - FRASC

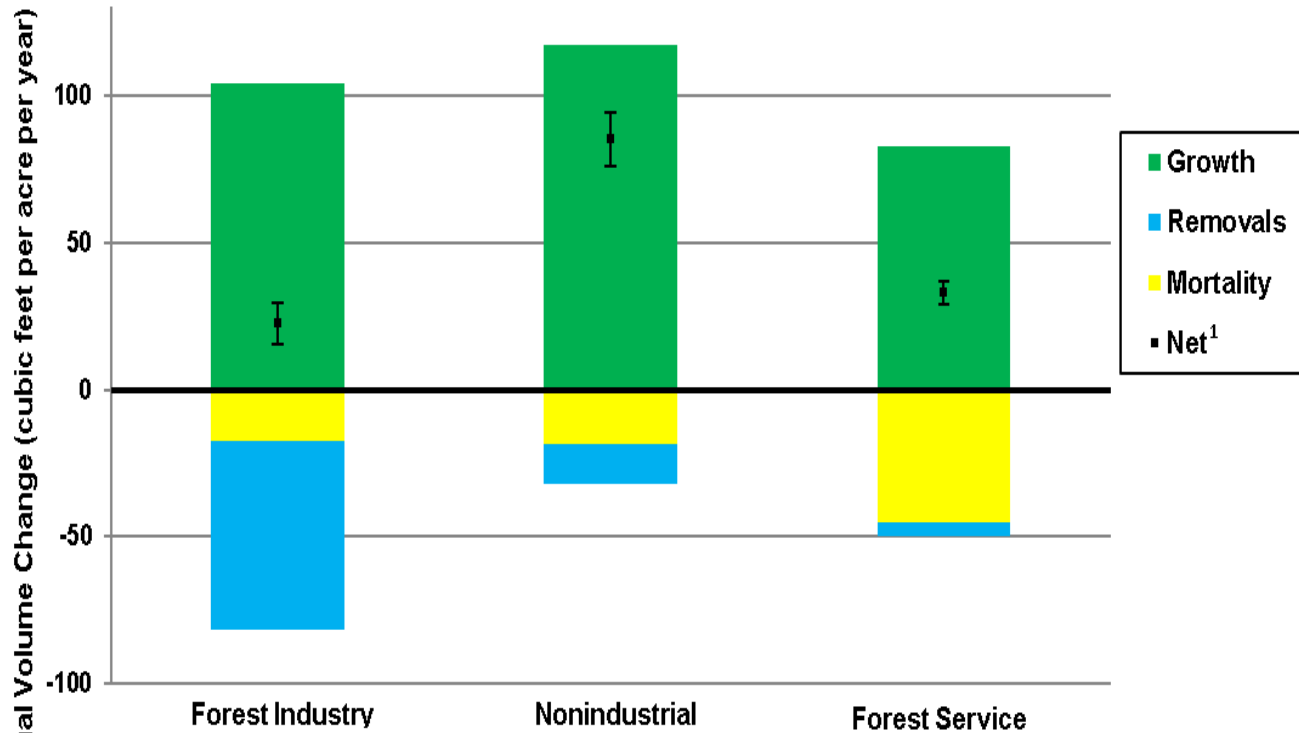
- 3-hour Hosted Public Meetings with guest panelists on 9 key topics
  - The *Forest and Rangelands Assessment Steering Committee* (FRASC) process
  - Short presentations by invited experts; public input on Assessment contents
  - Meetings held over the course of two years in Davis and Sacramento
- Consulted w/ partner agencies (CA DFW, DWR, CA EPA, USFS Region 5)
- External review solicited and received of all chapters

# Assessment 2017 and Other Related Plans

- Fire Plan
- Forest Carbon Plan
- 1504 Report
- AB 1492 Related Work
- Indicators of Climate Change (OEEHA)
- State Wildlife Action Plan (2015 update) (CDFW)
- State Water Plan (DWR)
- Upcoming State Forest Action Plan update (USFS, 2020)

# Indicator - Net Growth of Growing Stock on Timberland and Trend in Timber Harvesting

Timberland Growth, Removals, and Mortality (Softwoods)  
Measured 2001–2006 and 2011–2016

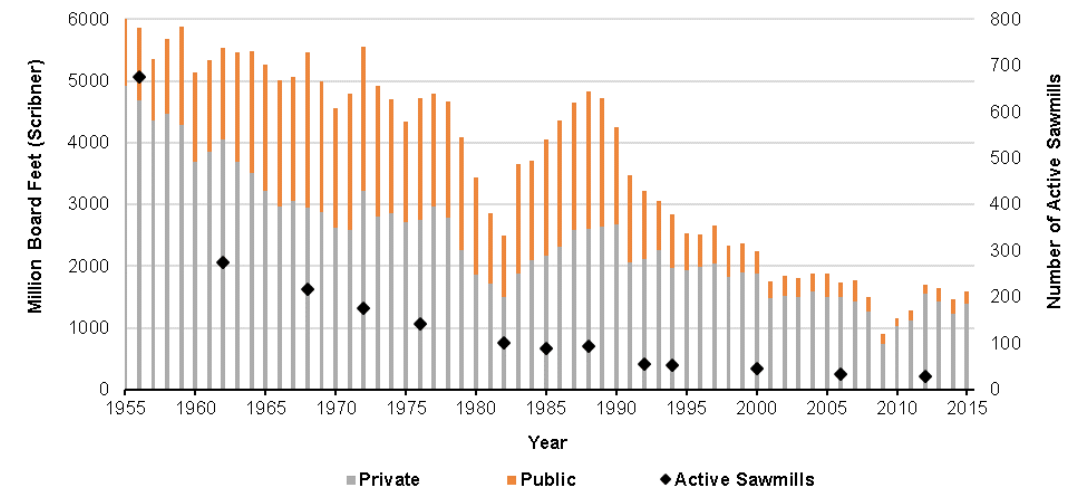


<sup>1</sup>Error bars represent sampling error.

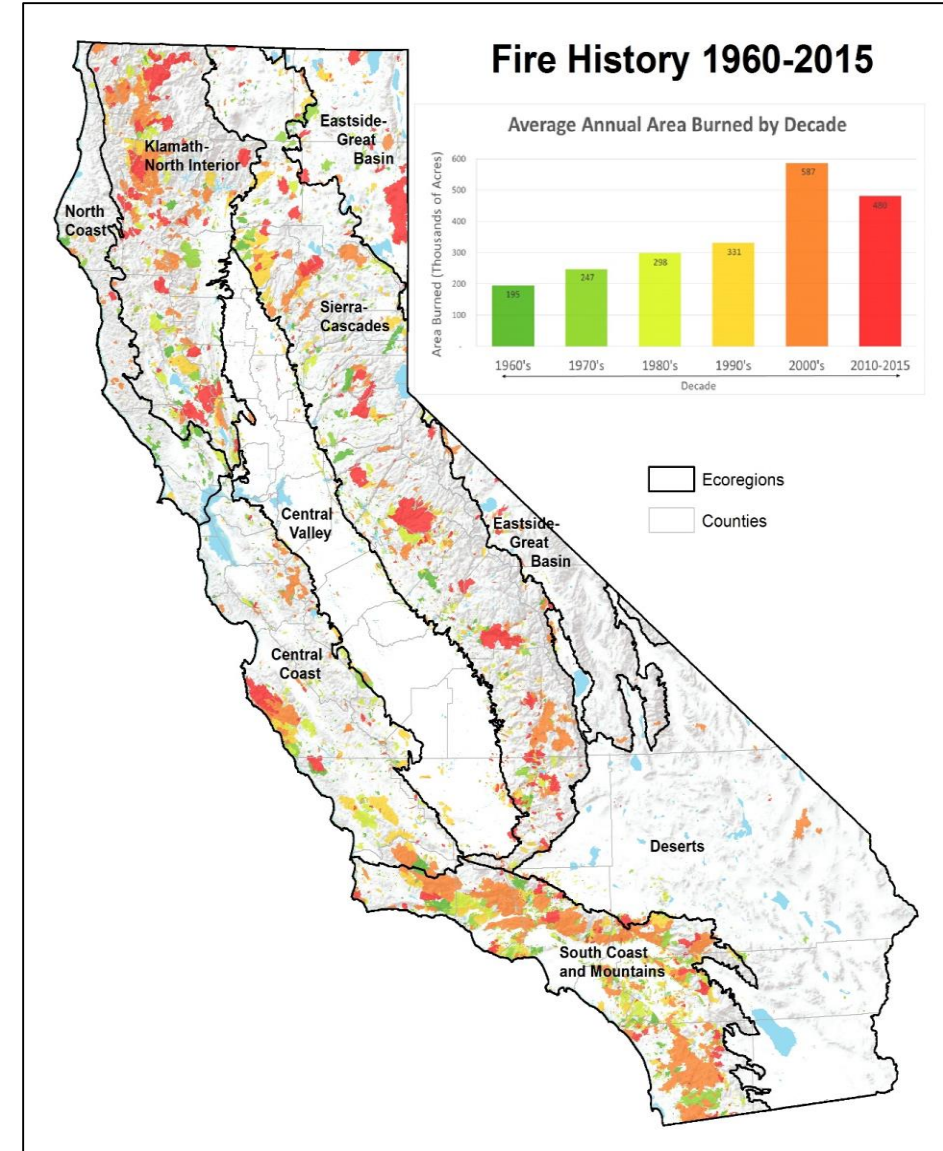
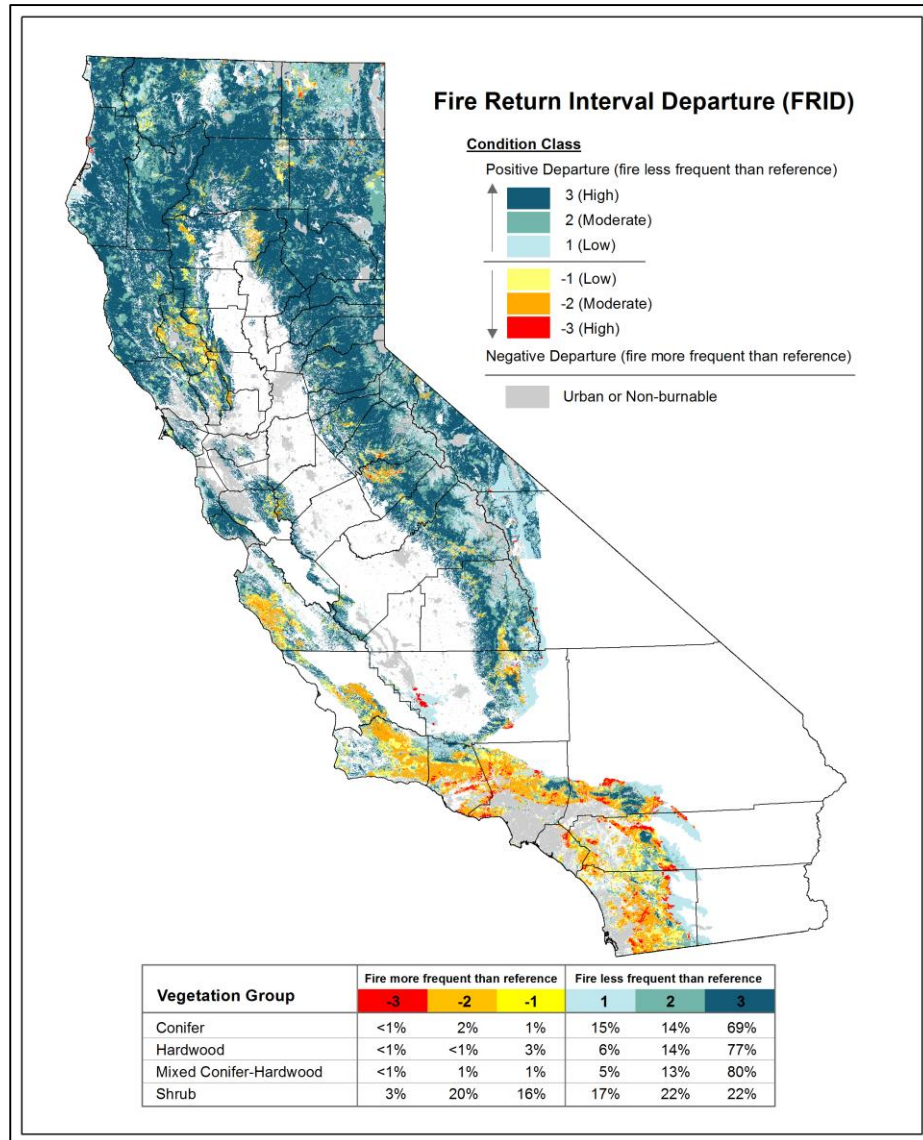
## Key findings:

- On forest industry timberlands, growth exceeded harvest and mortality by an average of 22 ft<sup>3</sup>/acre/.
- On nonindustrial timberlands, growth exceeded harvest and mortality by an average of over 85 ft<sup>3</sup>/acre/year.
- On Forest Service timberlands, growth exceeded harvest and mortality by an average of over 33 ft<sup>3</sup>/acre/year.

Public and Private Timber Harvest, and Active Sawmills  
1955–2015

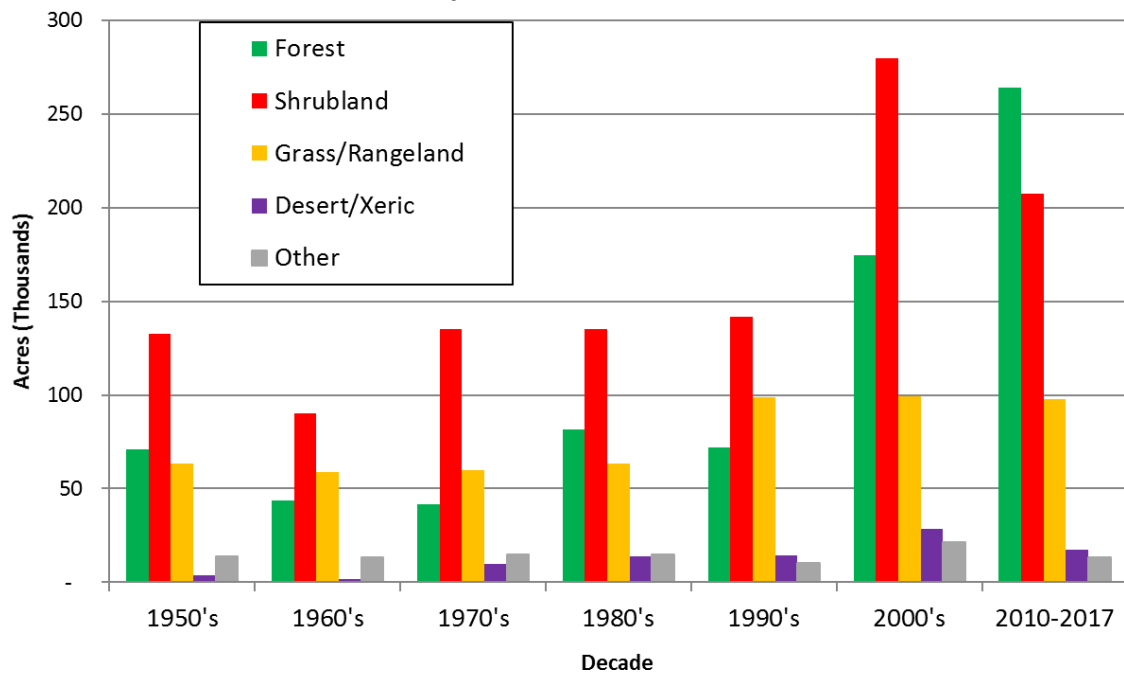


# Wildfire Indicators – Fire Return Interval Departure and Fire History



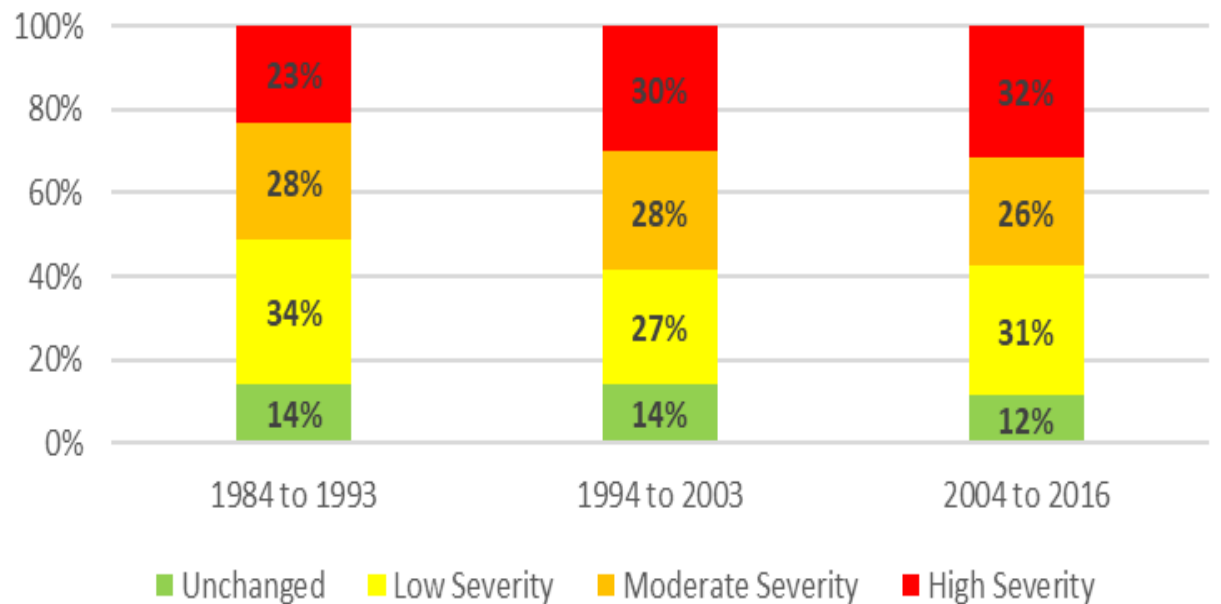
# Wildfire Indicators - Burned Area by Vegetation Type and Burn Severity

Average Annual Acres Burned in Vegetation Strata by Decade and 2010-2017\*



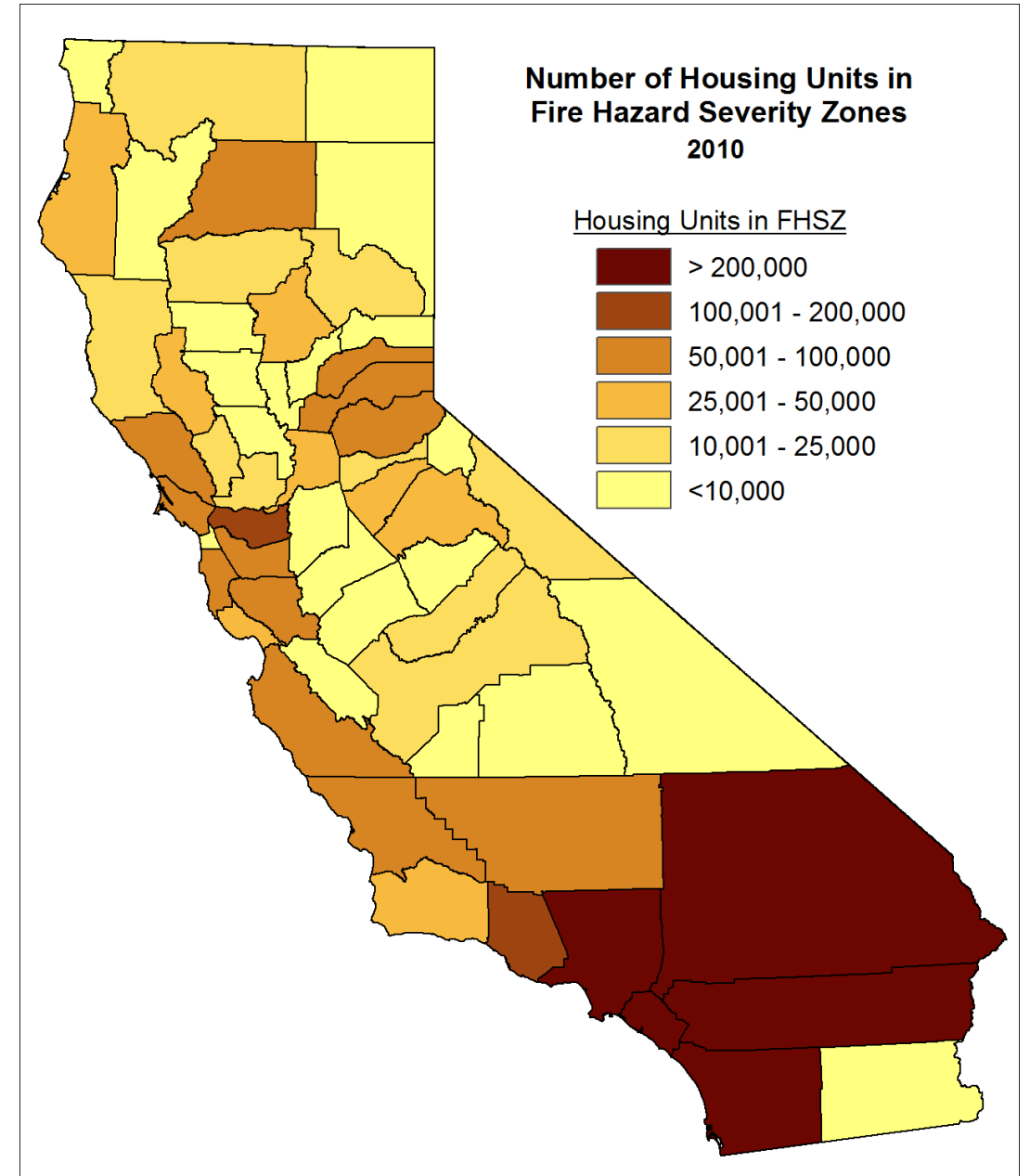
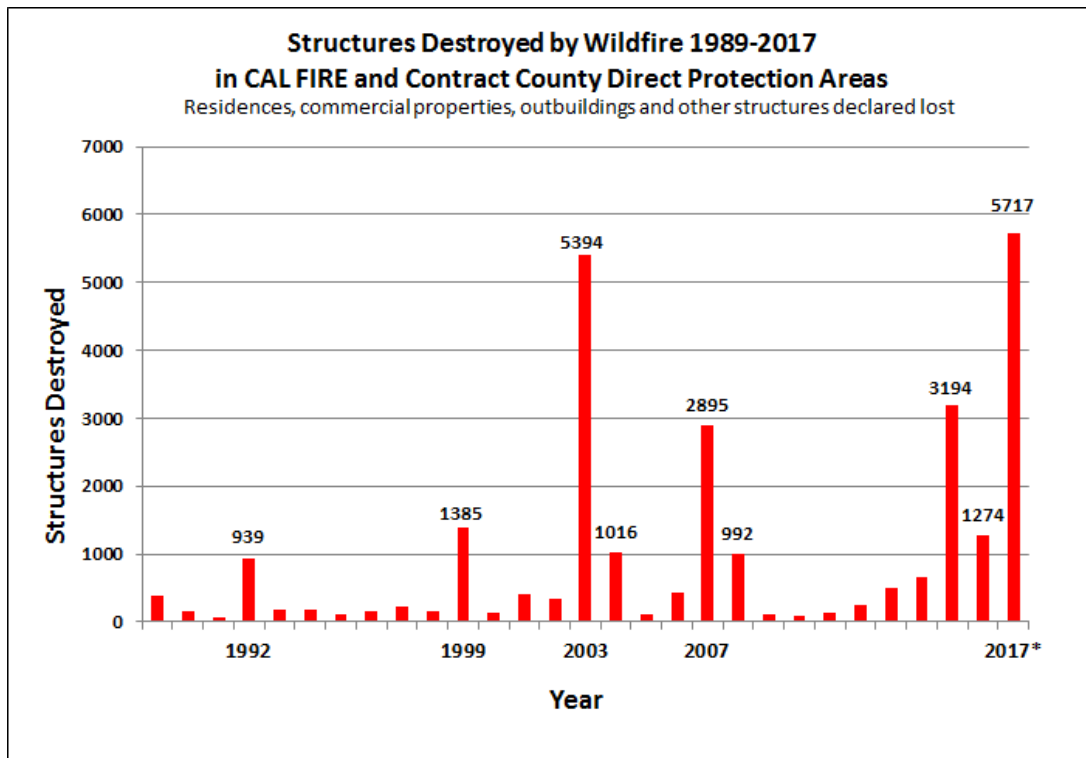
- Increase in annual area burned in both conifer and shrub over the last two decades
- 2000-2009, more shrub. 2010-2017, more forest.

Wildfire Severity in Yellow Pine & Mixed Conifer Forests

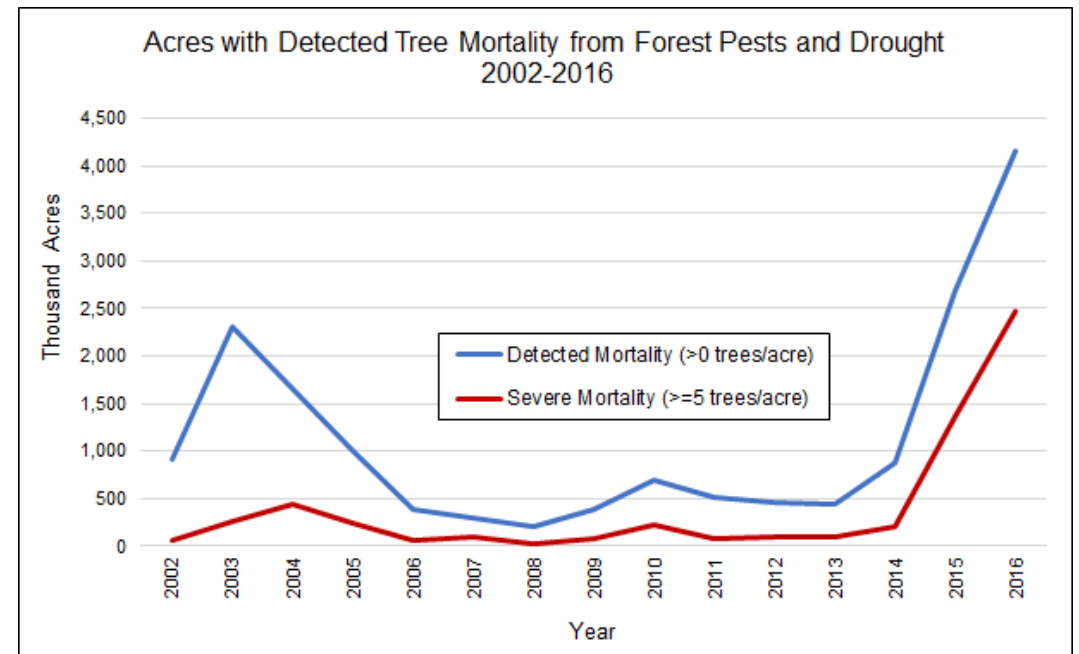
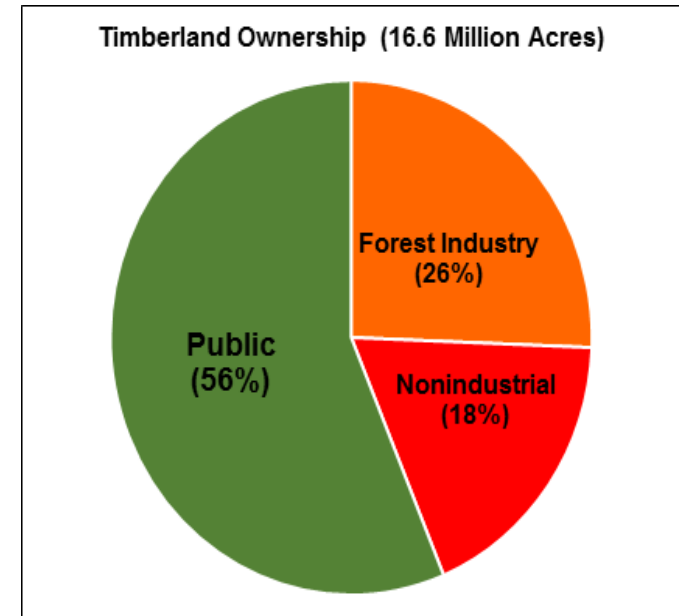
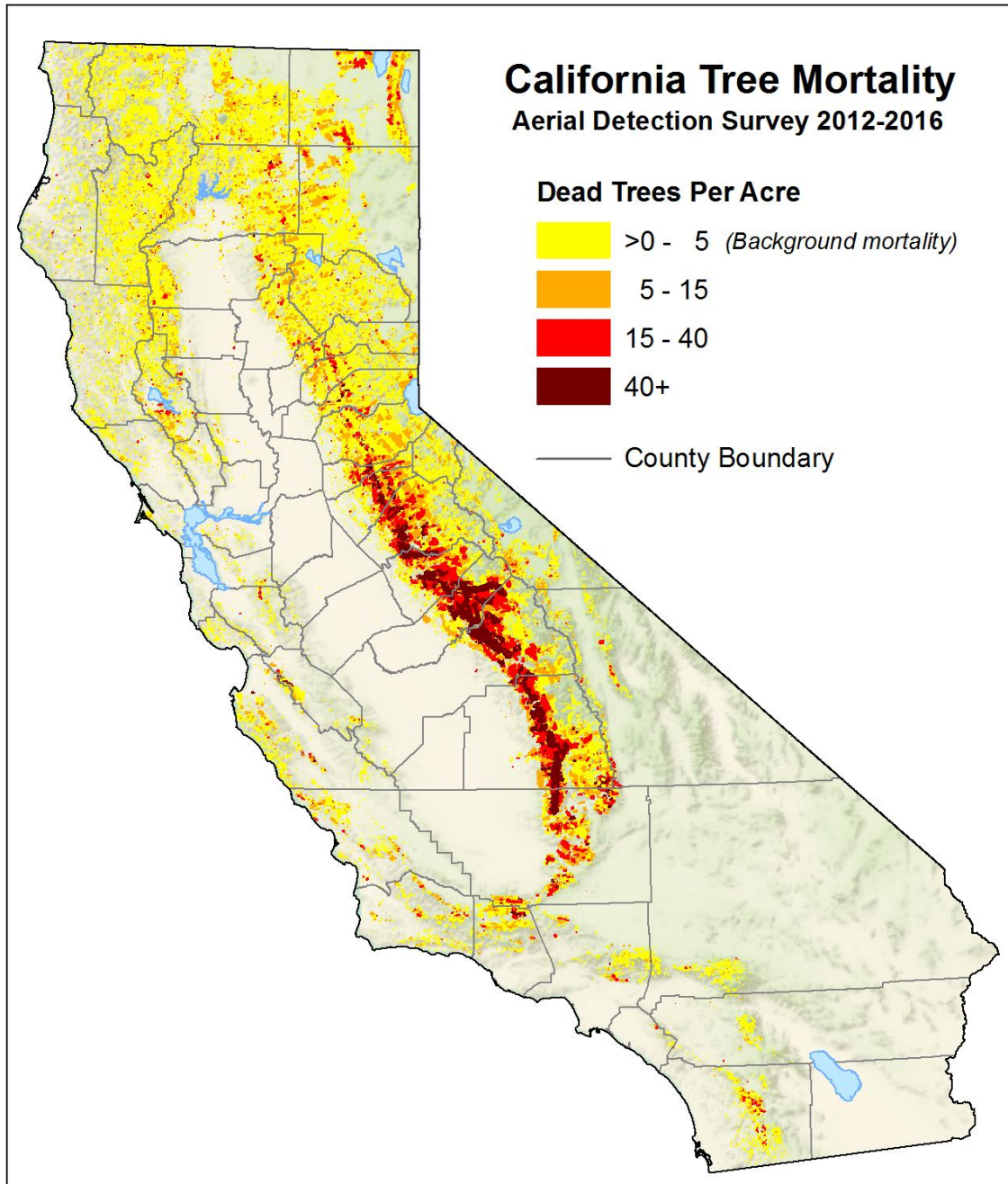


- Last 3 decades, high severity fire outside NRV (4-13%, Safford and Stevens 2017)
- Evidence for patch size increasing, complexity decreasing (Stevens et al. 2017)

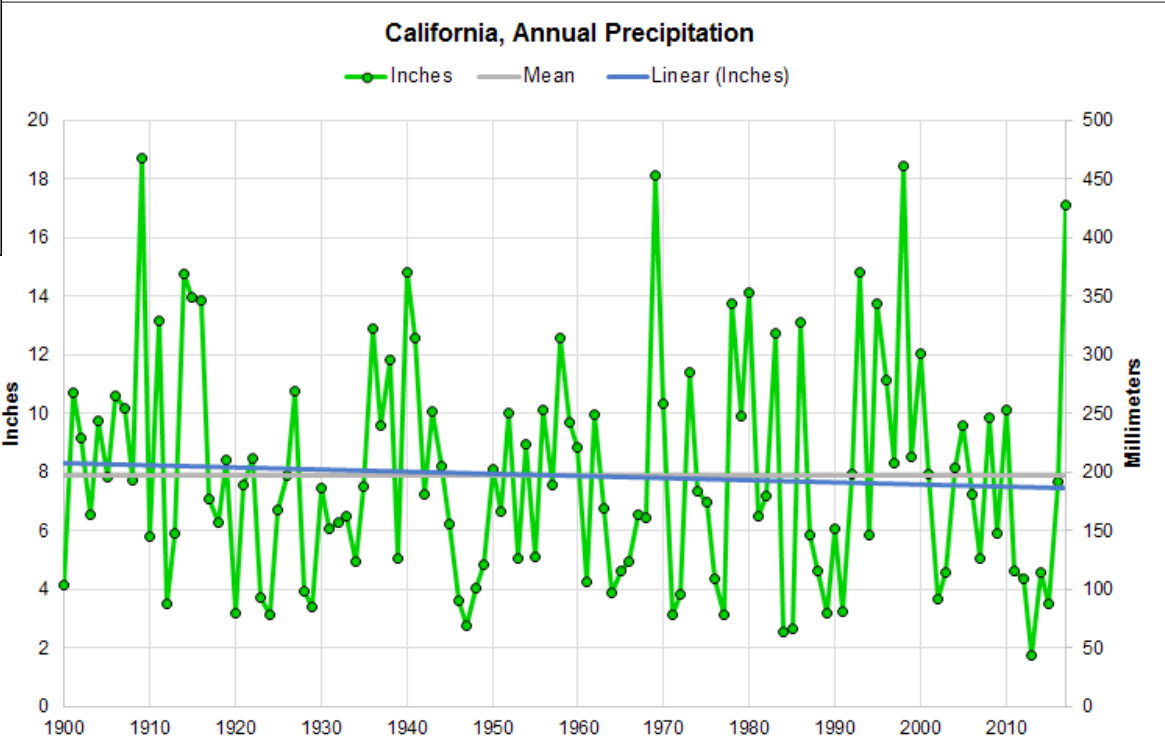
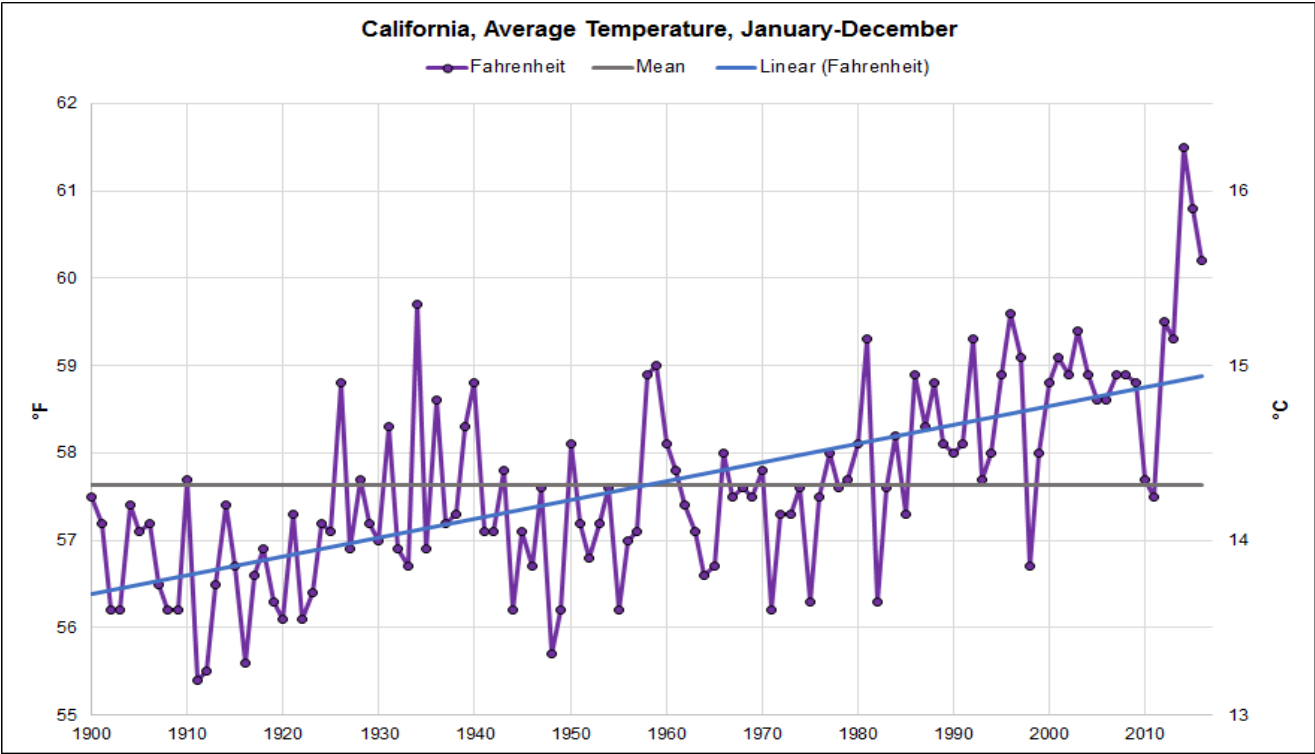
# Indicators - Reducing Community Wildfire Risk



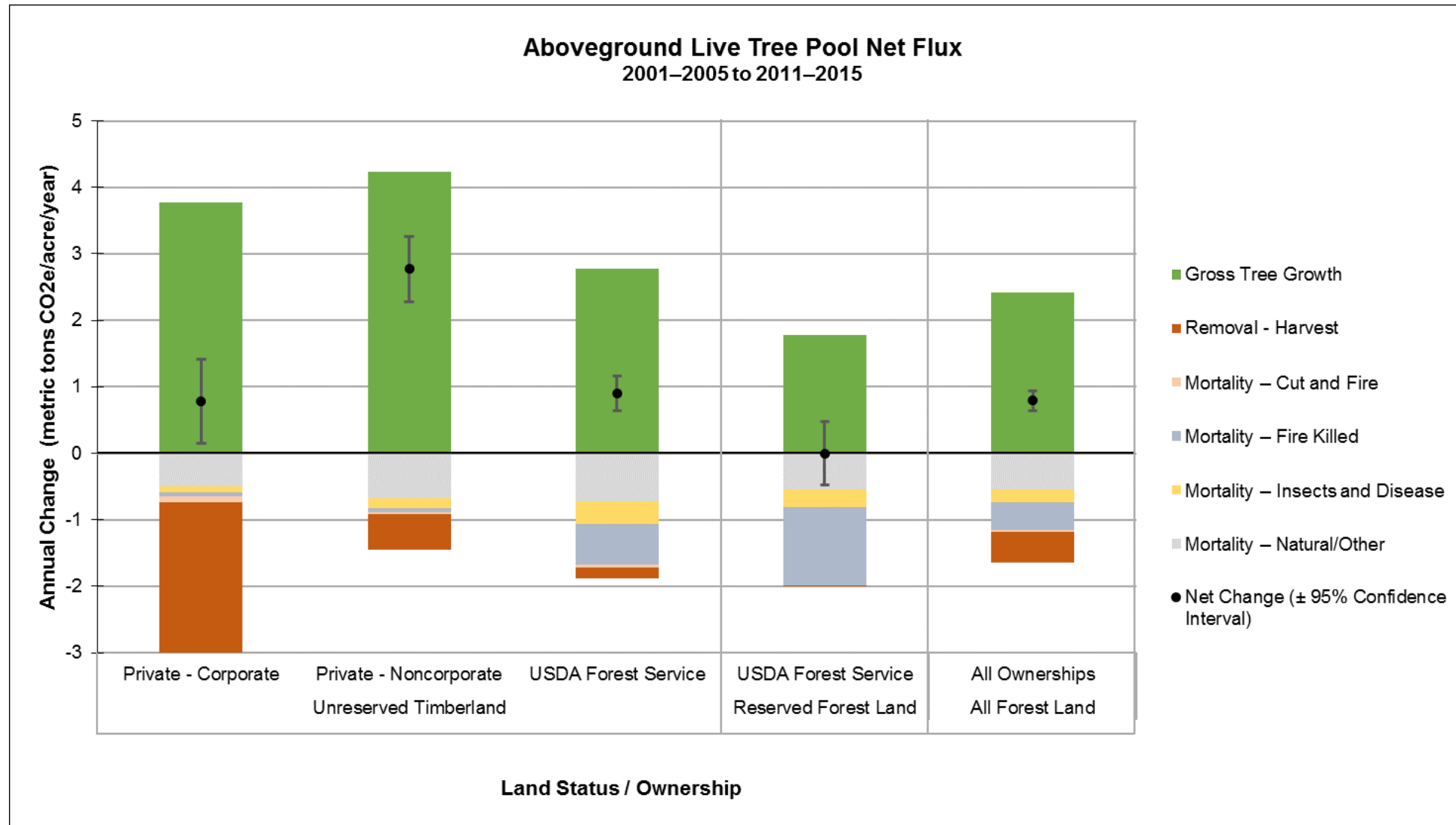
# Indicators - Forest Pests and Disease



# Climate Change Indicators – Air Temperature and Precipitation



# Climate Change Indicators – Net Flux in Live Tree Carbon Pool by Ownership Group



# Next Steps

- Public Release of Assessment (April-May)
- Data and Supporting Documents (August-September)
- BoF Policy Statement
- State Forest Action Plan update (in collaboration with USFS, 2020)